Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03429 181300Z ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SYE-00 /006 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4600

CONFIDENTIAL BEIRUT 3429

SY CHANNEL

DEPT FOR DASS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: ASSASSINATION OF AMBASSADOR MELOY

REF: A) CARACAS 6962; B) BEIRUT 3237 - NOTAL

- 1. IN CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS ON MELOY/WARING ASSASSINATIONS, GOL HAS DEVELOPED THEORY THAT ABDUCTION OF MOGHRABI BY SAI'QA ON MAY 16, 1975 BROUGHT HIM TO THE ATTENTION OF FATAH AND THAT AS RESULT OF FATAH'S CONCENTRATED "BRAINWASHING," MOGHRABI BECAME AN ACTIVE "AGENT" OF THIS GROUP.
- 2. ACCORDING TO RSO FILES, THE NAME GHALAINI REFERS TO ONE OMAR GHALAINI, OWNER OF THE GHALAINI RESTAURANT, WHERE THE MAY 75 ABDUCTION OF MOGHRABI TOOK PLACE. GOL BELIEVES THAT, SUBSEQUENT TO THE MOGHRABI ABDUCTION, GHALAINI WAS A SOURCE OF SECURITY INFORMATION FOR RSO TELFORD. RSO IS UNCERTAIN AS TO BASIS OF GOL'S INFORMATION AND SUGGESTS THAT FORMER BEIRUT RSO, CRAIG HOLM, BE INTERVIEWED SINCE HE WAS STILL ON SCENE WHEN MOGHRABI WAS KIDNAPPED, AND THERE IS POSSIBILITY GHALAINI MAY HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED DURING THE SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION OF MOGHRABI INCIDENT.

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3. IN ORDER TO ASSIST GOL'S INVESTIGATION, RSO HAS PROVIDED AT THE DIRECTION OF COM A SANITIZED COPY OF THE INVESTIGATIVE REPORT OF MOGHRABI ABDUCTION, DATED 29 MAY 75. ALTHOUGH GOL ORIGINALLY BELIEVED MOGHRABI ABDUCTION OCCURRED ONLY A FEW MONTHS PRIOR TO THE MELOY ASSASSINATION, IT IN FACT OCCURRED OVER ONE YEAR PRIOR TO THE MURDERS. THIS WAS REPORTED TO GOL WHO

NOW BELIEVE THEIR EARLIER INFORMATION INCORRECT AND MAY 75 RIGHT DATE.

4. COM IS PRESENTLY GO-BETWEEN WITH THE GOL (FOREIGN MINISTER) AND RSO HAS NOT BEEN IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH INVESTIGATING OFFICERS. AS RESULT LIKELIHOOD OF CONFUSION IN PASSING REPORTS/THEORIES BACK AND FORTH IS IMMENSE; HOWEVER, SYSTEM IS BEING USED AT GOL'S REQUEST IN ORDER MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY. SET-UP ALSO PREVENTS RSO FROM MAKING ANY ASSESSMENT OF GOL'S SOURCES, CAPABILITIES, ETC. PARKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: SY

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am

Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BEIRUT03429
Document Source: Conference Confe

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A **Expiration:** Film Number: n/a Format: TEL From: BEIRUT

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 2

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770749/aaaabpuv.tel

Line Count: 74 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes: Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE

Message ID: 82ed356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION SY

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 CARACAS 6962, 77 BEIRUT 237 Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 22-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1834837 Secure: LOCK1 Status: NATIVE

Subject: ASSASSINATION OF AMBASSADOR MELOY

TAGS: ASEC To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/82ed356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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